

Proposed bus route changes for fall 2012

Route 56 – Replace | Route 56 Express – Revise

Proposal

- **Replace Route 56** ([current map](#)) with alternative service on new Route 50.
- **Coordinate the schedules** of Route 56 Express and revised Route 57.
- **Revise Route 56 Express to travel directly** between Admiral Way and the upper level of SW Spokane Street and the West Seattle Freeway, with no stops at SW 26th Street/Chelan Avenue SW.

Change from November 2011 suggestion

Increase the speed of Route 56 Express by skipping the stops at SW 26th Street and Chelan Avenue SW.

Reason(s) based on Metro's Service Guidelines

- **Performance.** During off-peak and night hours, Route 56 performance is in the bottom 25 percent of routes serving downtown Seattle on both measures Metro uses to rate performance (rides per service hour and passenger miles per bus mile).

Metro's service guidelines call for us to shift resources from poorly performing routes to invest in service quality issues, under-served corridors, or highly productive routes with the goal of making the transit network more productive overall.

- **Serve multiple destinations.** Reducing the number of routes with direct connections to downtown Seattle would allow us to expand service to other places.
- **Reduce duplication.** Replacing Route 56 with revised Route 21 between SW Avalon Way/SW Spokane Street and downtown Seattle would reduce duplication in the proposed network by consolidating bus routes heading to downtown Seattle.
- **Create direct routes.** Using the first available ramp onto the West Seattle Bridge would be faster and more direct than the current routing, saving time for riders.

Alternative service

- **During peak hours:** Take revised Route 56 Express or revised Route 57 to downtown Seattle.

- **During off-peak hours:** Use new Route 50, which would provide service between Alki and Columbia City.
 - Connect with [Link light rail](#) or a number of bus routes at the SODO Link station. Link provides service between downtown Seattle and Sea-Tac International Airport.
 - Connect with revised Route 21 at SW Spokane Street for service between Westwood Village and downtown Seattle via SODO.
- **SW 26th Street/Chelan Avenue SW:** Use revised Route 21, revised Route 37, or new Route 50.

Service frequency

Route	Minutes between buses				
	Weekday			Saturday	Sunday
	Peak	Off-Peak	Night		
Link light rail	7.5	15	30	10-15	10-15
21	15	15	30	15	30
50	20	30	60	30	60

Trips on Route 37 during peak hours: 4 morning and 4 afternoon/evening

Trips on Route 56 Express during peak hours: 9 morning and 9 afternoon/evening

Trips on Route 57 during peak hours: 4 morning and 4 afternoon/evening

